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Scoutcraft

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NO. 1



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SCOUT MASTERS and Boy Scouts who are members of the Chicago Council may now purchase at wholesale prices any article of sporting goods carried by one of Chicago's leading and old established houses through a purchase agreement just made with them.

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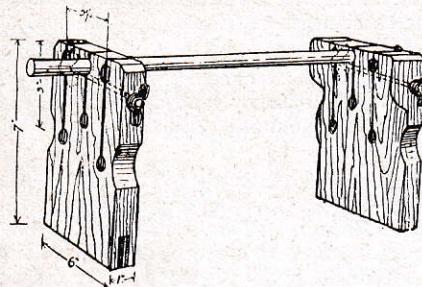
HOW TO KEEP YOUR SKATES SHARP

By W. Van B. Clausen, Sec'y
Skate-Sailing Ass'n of America

WHEN it comes to sharpening skates, most people are inclined to "let George do it!" They are perfectly willing to walk into the first cheap little hardware store that has taken a chance on picking up a few extra pennies by hanging out a "Skates Sharpened" sign, and let them ruin a perfectly good, and probably expensive, skating outfit.

What happens in such a place? They take your carefully tempered and relatively thin-bladed skate and press it heavily against a carborundum or emery wheel without any "jig" or frame or other form of support to properly guide it and make certain that they are putting on a true edge. The wheel bites deeply into the blade, leaving heavy cross ridges at right angles to the direction of travel when the blade is gliding over the ice, and instead of an accurate and true running surface, the edge wavers first up on one side of the blade, and then on the other.

Had the skates been properly sharpened, you would have glided off on the very first stride with all the smoothness and ease imaginable. One little push and you would coast for fifty feet. And both edges of the blade would be so keen and razor-like that you could "grind-the-bar" at full speed around a small circle with absolutely no trace of side slipping or skidding, and you could lay over at a sharp enough angle to easily touch the ice with your hand.



There is no question but that the most satisfactory, least expensive and simplest way to keep tubular racing skates properly sharpened, is to do it yourself with simple equipment that can be purchased at any sporting goods store. If you touch up the blades after each time you use them, or even after each couple of times, you will find it will take but a few moments and you will be many times repaid, not only in the greater pleasure that comes from using really sharp skates, but also in the actual improvement in your skating.

Necessary Equipment

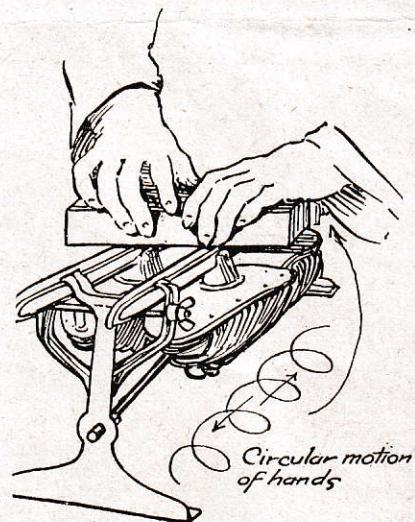
You can purchase one of several styles of sharpening stands or "jigs." They are made in cast iron, wood, and of a composition metal or alloy like hard aluminum, and they usually "knock-down" or fold up into compact size. The wooden ones are usually made to fit a particular brand of skates, and are preferred by many racing men as they are light and can easily be carried wherever they go to compete. In general, however, the alloy stands seem to be the most practical for general use, and they will take practically any make and size of tubular skate. Remember, however, that these jigs are carefully machined and gauged, and are not only intended to hold the skates conveniently for being sharpened, but also to automatically line them up even and

true with each other so that the edges will be absolutely accurate. This means that they should be handled carefully, and not strained or forced while adjusting the skates in the clamps.

The only other portion of the equipment to purchase, is the sharpening stone. This can be a carborundum stone, or a good PIKE combination India oil stone, either seven inches or eight inches long, with a medium face for sharpening and a very fine face for finishing. Get an old tooth-brush, a piece of cloth and a small saucer or cover of a tin can with some kerosene in it, and you are all set.

How It's Done!

Spread out a piece of newspaper or cardboard (the shirt-boards that come with your laundry are fine for the purpose!) and set up the jig either on a table, or on the floor if you do not mind kneeling. Fold in the tops of your skating-shoes and tuck in the laces so as to get them out of the way; holding the skates upside down—that is, with the shoes down and with the running surface of the blade uppermost—slip first one end and then the other into the



clamps with the toes of the skates pointing the same way. If the jig is of the pattern that clamps onto the tubular portion of the skate, there is usually no adjustment for height; if, however, it has a narrow jaw and clamps directly onto the side of the blade, it is necessary to get an approximate level by aligning the clamps along some ridge or other definite mark on the blade so that this same setting can be obtained every time you sharpen the skates. If you wish to be particularly careful, mark the jig so that you can always assemble it with the same section holding the toes of the skates, and the other section for the heels.

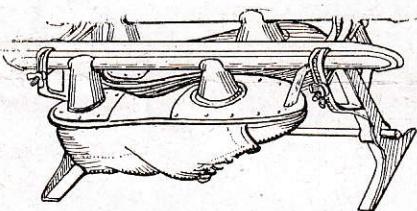
To get the exact adjustment before sharpening, stand with the heels of the skate towards you and lay the stone, with the coarse face down, so that it bridges from the blade of one skate across to the other; tilt the stone so that just the edge of the coarse face is touching the two blades and at the toe, at the center, and at the heel, draw the edge lightly once or twice sideways across the blades. Now get

the light just right on the blades and you can see the scratches just made. If all of them extend completely across the thickness of the blade, the skates are level and true with their present edges and may be sharpened.

If the scratches at the toe for instance, touch only the left edge of the blade, it would indicate that the toe of the right skate had to be lowered in the jig, or the toe of the left one raised. Make this slight adjustment and check it with a few more scratches near the first ones, until you have the skates level. Of course, if your skates are not true in the first place, either through abuse or from previous improper sharpening, you will either have to use your judgment in establishing a new level, or take your skates to a reputable and competent shop and have them sharpened properly once as a beginning.

Use Your Judgment

Moisten the coarse face of the stone with kerosene, and using a free circular motion so as to employ as much of the face of the stone as possible, work evenly from heel to toe, back and forth. Use your judgment as to how much weight to put on the stone and how long to work; this will depend entirely on the condition of the blades and their hardness or temper. If they are really dull, do not try to get the job done all at once; have patience and do it slowly and properly, and then don't let them get as bad as that again; touch them up just a little every time you use them. Keep the stone moist with kerosene and at the same time scrub off the tiny particles of steel so that they do not clog the pores or "glaze" your stone. Work evenly from heel to toe; do not concentrate on any one point or you will work high and low spots into the blade. Use a big free circular motion, otherwise you will ruin your stone by wearing two grooves in it.



Wipe the oil from the blades and by getting the light just right and looking at the scratches, you can tell pretty well whether or not they need more work on them; feel the edges and if they are satisfactory, scrub off and dry the coarse face of the stone, moisten the smooth face and with the same circular motion polish off the scratches. For the last six or seven rubs, instead of using the circular motion, use a straight forward and backward motion the full length of the blades in order to polish them and give a satin finish without any trace of cross-graining. Scrub off the face of the stone and dry it.

Now if you want to do an extra fine job and hone the sides of the blade in order to remove any possible burr, take the skates out of the jig, put the tip of an old leather glove on your index finger so that you can slide it along the side of the sharpened blade as a guide, and with your thumb hold a small fine carbide pen knife stone flat against the other side of the blade and rub several times the full length. Reverse the skate and repeat on the other side of the blade.

If you have done a good job you can pare the back of your thumb-nail at any point along either edge of the blade, and when you have blades in this condition and keep them so, you are going to experience the thrill of your life time every time you go skating.

For Other Types of Skates

Wide bladed hockey skates, figure skates, and ordinary rocker or club-skates, cannot be satisfactorily sharpened by the above method. Due to the width of the blade they must be "hollow ground," or in other words the running surface must be slightly concaved with reference to its width—not its length. This means that they have to be sharpened by holding them against a revolving emery wheel three or four inches in diameter, and it is absolutely essential that some

form of adjustable clamp and guide be used to hold the skate level and true against the wheel. A good job cannot be done by merely holding the skate in your hands, or even by resting it on an ordinary tool guide.

Since this equipment is not readily adaptable to home use, it means that such work will have to be done at a shop. In picking such a shop, it is wise to be guided by the equipment they have; if you see no evidence of suitable clamps or guides purposely designed for skate sharpening, or if questioning brings out that they merely do it by hand, it is a pretty good shop to stay away from.

Keep Your Skates in Condition

The best skater in the world would be very nearly helpless on dull skates, and he is therefore very particular to see that his skates are always sharp. Can you see any advantage in handicapping yourself by neglecting to keep your skates in equally good condition?

—Scouting

HEADQUARTERS HAS CHRISTMAS PARTY

'Twas the day before Christmas at Scout Headquarters and terrible hard to work, for the boss had promised that Santa Claus was coming. Who could work under such circumstances? At last the time was at hand for the party and every one congregated—and waited—and waited, but no Santa Claus.

"Let's sing, maybe that will bring him," some one suggested. Sure enough one song did the business. In fact it produced a most unusual Santa Claus. Another song and no one could predict what might have resulted as a Santa Claus. But let me tell you about this one. He had wild black Russian whiskers! He wore no red jacket but a black seal skin coat. Instead of his stocking cap as usual, this S. C. wore a Russian Cossack's cap with a red velvet top! And he had on red Russian boots! He must have been a Russian Santa Claus. Still he had a Swedish accent.

Anyway he appeared at one of the windows, there being no chimneys at Headquarters, and after the screams of excitement subsided announced, "I'll be right in, little boys and girls." And how—!

Well, he read letters from the girls at the office. Such things girls do want. One that lives out south in Beverly Hills wanted a beau. (That's French for boy friend.) Another wanted some reducing powders. Still another claimed she would be broken hearted if she did not receive a nice automobile, something like a Lincoln or Cadillac. Wonder where she got such extravagant ideas?

After the letters S. C. run off a beauty contest. Finally after over half the scores were counted three of the girls, Miss Beardsley who is the reception committee always at the door, you remember, Miss Minnie Cairns, the dark senorita with the Irish name who holds forth in the Record Department, and Miss McNelly who runs the Field Department office, were running neck and neck for first place. Miss Mc got so excited that she kissed S. C. and was immediately announced the winner.

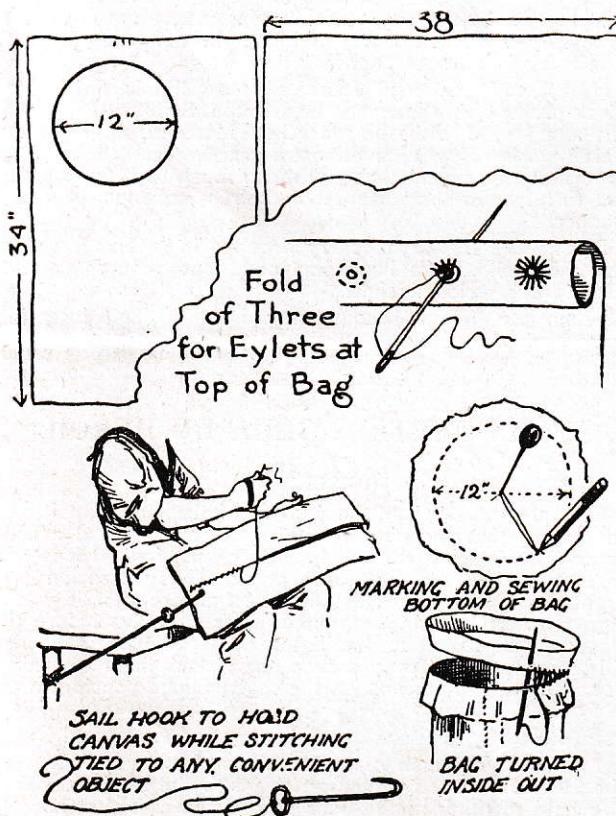
Mr. Bergquist, the executive of the Calumet District, won first prize in the men's beauty contest. He always does, because he always counts the votes.

After the contest the presents were distributed. Every one had a present that was designed purposely for that particular individual. Such items as a parrot in a cage, a racing car, beautiful Woolworth ear-rings, and so many other things that memory fails in the confusion made every one happy. Then of course the girls got candy and the boys many and varied things including socks, magazine subscriptions and desk pen sets.

It was a hot party and the hottest thing about it was that Russian Santa Claus.

HOW TO MAKE A DUFFLE OR SEA BAG

HUNDREDS of years of experience at sea has proven that the duffle, or sea bag, is by far the most convenient type of bag in which to carry clothes and other articles. The reason for this is that so many more things can be carried in a duffle than in any other similar type of traveling bag. It does not take up much space on the ship or in camp. It is easy to carry and can be used for many purposes. For that reason every Scout and Sea Scout who goes for a long hike, or to camp, or on a long cruise on a vessel should provide himself with one of these bags. They can be made by any boy who is handy enough with a palm and needle. The materials cost very little. As there are many boys who would have these bags if they knew how to make them, the following description is written for their benefit.



Material

The material that you will need for making this bag is as follows:

A piece of number 8 canvas (if canvas is hard to get, old awning, tents, cement sacks, etc., are suggested). This piece of canvas should be 5 feet long and 34 inches wide. A palm. Sail needle (this is just a large needle, 4 inches long, size should be number 14). Some twine. Some bees wax. A sail hook. (This can be bought or it can be made out of a piece of wire bent in a shape of a hook. It is illustrated on this page.) Blue marking pencil. A sharp knife. (A Scout knife is O. K.) "A rubber." (This is a flat piece of wood, bone or steel for rubbing down the seams, you may also use the back of your knife handle.) A little grease horn or cup. A pricker. (That is a sharp nail fitted with a wooden handle.)

Cutting Out the Bag

From the piece of canvas you must first cut out a circular piece 12 inches in diameter. This you can do by sticking the pricker in the canvas, a distance of $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches from each edge in one corner. Then take a piece of string, place it around the pricker and around the blue pencil, so there is a distance of 6 inches from the point of the pricker to the point of the pencil. Then with the pencil draw a circle on the canvas. This circle will be 12 inches in diameter. You then cut out this circular piece of canvas to be used for the bottom of the bag.

Now cut a piece of the canvas 38 inches long and 34 inches wide. This will allow for a bag 10 inches in diameter with an inch overlapping for the seam. It will be 30 inches long with a 3 inch fold at the top for the eyelet holes and one inch allowed for the bottom seam.

The first thing to do is to fold the top of the canvas down as shown in the sketch and sew it with an over-hand stitch. This is the part of the bag in which the eyelets will be sewn. (The bag lanyard by which the bag is closed and carried will be riveted through these, and therefore the canvas must be strengthened at this point.)

The eyelets are made by cutting 4 or 6 small holes at equal distances apart. Several turns of twine are wound around the edges of these holes as shown in this sketch and they are finished off there and strengthened by a loop stitch, which is also shown in sketch. When this is done, sew the sides of the bag together. The selvaged edge should be inside and the outer edge turned over. Sew this edge down with a flat seam and then sew the two parts together with a flat seam about 5 stitches to the inch.

In doing this sewing it will be found convenient to use the sail hook (in the way shown in this sketch). You will now have a canvas cylinder 31 inches long. Turn it inside out.



You are now ready to put on the bottom. Turn back one inch of the bottom as shown and sew on the bag to the sides of the bottom with the round stitch. (You will remember that we made this round piece 12 inches wide; that was done so that we would be able to turn up one inch all around) so that you now have a circular piece 10 inches wide which is the diameter of your bag.

This is clearly shown in the sketch. Now turn the bag inside out again. This is your Sea Bag.

(Continued on page eight)

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CITY WIDE COURT OF REVIEW

JANUARY

EAGLE and PALM Court of Review, WEDNESDAY, January 30th, at SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, 37 South Wabash Avenue, Room 905, at 6:30 P. M. APPLICATIONS must be filed at HEADQUARTERS on WEDNESDAY, January 23rd.

FEBRUARY

EAGLE and PALM Court of Review, WEDNESDAY, February 27th, at SCOUT HEADQUARTERS, 37 South Wabash Avenue, Room 905, at 6:30 P. M. APPLICATIONS must be filed at HEADQUARTERS on WEDNESDAY, February 20th.

ROUNDUP TROPHIES ARE KNOCK-OUTS

No doubt the most unique trophies ever awarded in Scouting circles in Chicago are those used for the Troops who set objectives in the Roundup and made them.

Each trophy is a calf skin, hair and all, which by means of a special process of stenciling originated by Mr. Colby, one of the examiners of the Eagle Board of Review.

The hides are really very beautiful with striking markings and setting off in a beautiful fashion the silver lettering.

Troops that won these trophies should not roll them up or fold them unless a piece of paper is inserted between the folds as the acids used in the tanning process will tarnish the silver stenciling.

Mr. Colby also made up the neckerchief slides. Keep your eye peeled for the fellow wearing a leather knot with a green design stenciled upon it. That sort of a knot is evidence of a job done well and done at a time when the work of every fellow counted for much.

MILLER FAMILY ATTENDED JAMBOREE

Mr. and Mrs. Rue Miller and their daughter Rowena, attended the Jamboree. Mr. Miller, you will remember, is the Custodian of all the Owasippe Camps.

The family drove over in their new Buick and were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Goodman. Mr. Miller couldn't resist the desire to be of help, so jumped in as a property man and pushed wall scaling walls, houses and various other props all over the Coliseum.

Mrs. Miller spent considerable time shopping and Rowena, well, those Blackhawk fellers found out she was here.

HARRY SCHLENZ, NORTHWEST FIRST EAGLE VISITS HEADQUARTERS

Way back where memory almost fails to raise up dim visions, Northwest District proudly boasted of an "EAGLE." He was the first one in the district and his name was Harry Schlenz. Troop One was his stamping grounds and it was that troop's battle cry, "Not Troop One, But The First Troop," that rushed Harry Schlenz through the Court of Honor for Northwest District's first Eagle.

Harry graduated from Lane, went to Illinois, finished as a lone graduate in the course he selected, Sanitary Engineering, and stayed with the old Alma Mater to do some research work. Now after almost a year he has developed an important experiment that will mean much to his university and to all cities that dispose of their sewage in a sanitary manner.

During the Holidays, Harry dropped in at Headquarters and said hello. His handsome and good natured countenance was a welcome sight.

When you, Scout, become an old timer, don't forget to come back.

HEADQUARTERS GIRLS DO HEROIC SERVICE

Several weeks before the windup of the Roundup it was announced that the girls of the office would spend a little extra time figuring the results if it would help troops any to extend the Roundup for a week. The extension was granted and the girls stuck by the guns even if it was a bigger order than they expected. For ten days before the close of the Roundup the lights at Headquarters burned till ten, eleven, twelve, yea even one o'clock in the morning, in an attempt to stay up on the registrations pouring in.

But they were happy, for it meant becoming a Scout to a great host of you fellows and that was what counted.

And what a bunch of registrations there were when all the 3100 odd were bundled up to go to the National office. We hate to think of the poor girls down east that have to make records for all you fellows, but they are good scouts, too. The package was too big to mail so the Express company was called in to carry the precious package to National Headquarters.

The Executive Committee in appreciation of the fine spirit and work of the girls at Headquarters, passed a resolution thanking them.

THE GREAT SCOUTMASTER CALLS

Scout Mark Day of Troop 871 was called by the Great Scoutmaster of All Scouts during the past month. Scouts of his troop attended the funeral.

To the mother of Scoutmaster B. W. Collins, Troop 825, and the mother of James and George McDonald of Sea Scout Ship Revenge, came also the call.

Our sympathy is extended to the parents of Scout Day and his troop mates, to Scoutmaster Collins, and to Jimmie and George McDonald.

JAMBOREE A BIG SUCCESS

ALMOST 5,000 actors—that would be some show, wouldn't it, old Scoutie, but our own show, the Jamboree, had that many participants.

Only the big movie houses can boast of as large an attendance as our show had, almost 5,000 people each night.

It takes Mr. Ringling and his circus to use as big a stage as we used. And seldom are twelve horses used in any presentation in any theatre.

Even the New York Costuming Company sat up and took notice when we announced we wanted almost three hundred costumes. They are the biggest costumers in the city.

The carpenters at the Coliseum couldn't understand for some time just how we proposed to take a full size house out on a stage. And merely to burn it up, what was the sense of that? But we had the house.

Arlington Heights Troop 7, who did the wall scaling, suggested we use their portable board instead of building one on the scene for their use. Portable isn't quite the word for the huge contraption they have. It is sort of a combined side of a barn and ski slide. They managed to get it wet coming down which added a ton or so to its weight. But heavy props meant nothing to the property men of our show.

The troop that started the feeble yell for themselves on Friday night almost started a riot. Funny what a big ending little beginnings sometimes have.

John Phillip Sousa, the great band master, arrived five minutes after the show was over on Friday night. He and our own staff were very disappointed of course.

The Sea Scouts are clever. They asked that the property department of the show supply them with a 2½ inch hawser with which to tie knots; something that the people can see, was their excuse. Now they are going to use it on one of their ships. Pretty slick.

You fellows couldn't see what it was the Sea Scouts presented to Mr. Howard Gillette, the National Sea Scout Commodore. It was a white gold watch charm about the size of a quarter on the face of which was the Sea Scout badge and on the reverse side the inscription, "To Howard F. Gillette, National Sea Scout Commodore, who fathered Sea Scouting in Chicago."

Those horses used in the Evolution of Scouting pageant came from the 122nd Field Artillery Armory. Thanks, you fellows over there on the lake front. What would King Arthur and his round tablers have been without horses.

Mr. Walter W. Head, National President of the Boy Scouts of America, was unable to come to the show because of sudden illness. We are sorry, Mr. Head; we would have liked to have seen you and we know you would have liked the show. Mr. West was here and attended both nights.

Jimmie McDonald spent some of the biggest days of his life trying to "evolve" that covered wagon. Covered wagons just don't exist in Chicago but a scout is resourceful and Jimmie claims he still is a scout. The covered wagon used was a brick wagon, the bed was a bunch of tent poles, the frame some bent pipes, the cover a decorator's tarpaulin and the trunks at the back belonged to the costuming company. It was a swell wagon, Jimmie.

Scoutmaster Roy Alm and other Scoutmasters who assisted him in the pageant of the Scout Laws had a terrible time thinking up some of those clever stunts. Out of town visitors commended every one of the scenes and the first thing you know St. Louis, who has staged six of these shows, will be using clever ideas gleaned from Chicago. 'Sall right, St. Louis, we got a lot of ideas from you.

The biggest Scout Executive in America, Mr. J. Roe Bartel of St. Joseph, Missouri, was at the show. He is over six foot three and makes Ted Shearer look like a mere infant. He said we put on a good show which was kind of him. He knows his shows for he makes every one of these affairs staged.

The property men were smoked out once. Mr. Wright, who engineered the big fire act, is a fireman and therefore used to smoke but the property men are not. The smoke bombs were too much for them and they had to make a hurried exit much to the delight of the audience. We wonder how grandma is? The first night she fell out of the upper window and in the confusion didn't get any first aid. She surely wasn't badly hurt though for she managed to get off the stage unassisted.

The first aiders—what a time they had! Everything went well the first night but for some unknown reason the bandages couldn't be found the second night. The loss was discovered about twenty minutes before the act was called and panic behind scenes equalled the panic around the burning house. They were located just in time to keep Mr. Bergquist from tearing up his shirt for bandages.

Whoopie, I'm an Indian! Better stay away from the South Central District for there are a lot of wild Indians still loose down that-a-way. Ho-tan, who is none other than Mr. Jack Rohr, the former field executive of the South West District, was the big chief.

Those costumes worn by Scouts of old Southwest district during the final pageant are actually uniforms brought to America from 21 different nations. It wouldn't do for any of you fellows to appear on Chicago's streets with some of those outfits. Our own uniform is the classiest one in the lot even if we do pat ourselves on the back in saying it.

Mr. Tommie Loveridge, who assisted Mr. Gilbert Butler on the loud speakers, and Mrs. Loveridge, who is Mr. Nichols secretary and was a king-pin in the show, decided that a party was timely Saturday night after the show. Accordingly Mr. Nelson, commissioner of the South Shore district, Mr. Alm of North Shore fame, Ernie Even who was "props" at the show and a very, oh yes, very sweet young lady, Miss McNelly, of the Field Department, who was major domo of the Roundup, Mr. Nichols and Ted Shearer, all repaired to the Loveridge diggings down on Drexel and proceeded to devour great gobs of Chinese chow mein and sundry other items. After the big banquet scene everybody went home before they went to sleep on the Loveridges.

The printer has instructions to use as much of these recollections of Chicago Scouting's Big Moment as he has room for. If any item that should be in here is left out then it is his fault.

But there is one thing that must not be left unsaid. We put on a creditable show and we are proud of it. We had a good time, some of us almost had a nervous breakdown, and some strong men were observed to weep but we rung the bell anyhow. To every last leader and Scout that had a part we say, "Good Work Old Scout, we had a swell time, didn't we." Mr. Stern and the committee of the Jamboree in a more dignified manner extend their sincere thanks to everyone.

Bigger and better Boy Scout Shows!

41,597 BEADS IN PLACQUE

Scout Carl Schraag of Troop 627 is, to say the least, a patient soul. He has just completed and presented to Mr. Goodman, the Executive, a plaque, fifteen inches in diameter, of the scout badge, made entirely of black and white beads. He claims the total number of beads to be 41,597 and no one is going to bother counting them.

Scout Schraag presented the plaque to Mr. Goodman at the Jamboree and it is now on display in the Trading Post at Headquarters.



SAILING SEASON OPENS

In our last issue we said sailing was closed until after Christmas and we meant what we said. Now it's open again.

On January 1, at 2 p. m., training ship "Idler," under Steve Ram's command, left sail alone from Randolph St. slip. She scudded before a bitter nor'wester and arrived at the Calumet inlet in almost 90 minutes. The coast guard, who were advised beforehand, then hustled out and towed her up to the yards, where she will be hauled out.

This is, as far as the records go, the earliest pleasure trip made by a yacht in these regions. Steve, who was on the Borden trip, is used to such arctic adventures, but we wouldn't be surprised if some of the boys were a bit coolish.

Now the only sound to be heard on the lake front is the crunching of ice. There have been some more iceboats constructed but there seems to be no place in the city to make use of them. South side boys go to Cedar Lake, Indiana, or to Lake Calumet. North siders must depend on lakes Zurich or Geneva, or others near by. We wish there was some lagoon in town where all could practice this wild and woolly sport. We feel sure that it would soon find hundreds of participants if made easier to enjoy.

THE JAMBOREE

The work of the Sea Scout Corps on the Big Nights was generously praised by Scout officials from the Chief Pilot, Mr. Goodman, down. The "boys in blue" were all over the place, each one doing the work of two or three and jumping into the emergencies as they arose. The main job was ushering the public, but the various details ran all the way from running a fire patrol to driving the "covered wagon." The Corsair, Farragut and Privateer put sketches on the stage and almost every other ship was represented by officers and men in some duty.

COMMODORE GILLETTE HONORED

The National Commodore was presented with a white gold medal by Chicago Sea Scouts as a token of appreciation for his staunch support. Mr. Gillette is largely responsible for putting Sea Scouting on the map both locally and nationally. The brief ceremony at the Jamboree was the best way we could think of to show our gratitude.

WINTER QUARTERS

The gang is pretty well snowed in by now and for a while will attend to building up membership and ship moral. Basket ball is being played hither and yon and outdoor stuff indulged in such as skating and skiing. The Regional banquet at the end of January or early in February will see the gang on deck in uniform again to act as ushers and orderlies and prevent unruly Scoutmasters and committee-men from tearing down the hotel. A job worthy of our mettle!

HOW TO MAKE A DUFFLE or SEA BAG—Continued from page five

A lanyard, or a "draw string" as it is sometimes called, should be made of white line about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch in diameter and about 4 feet long. A back splice should be made at each end to prevent it from unraveling. It is laced through the eyelets, drawn together and tied with a square-knot.

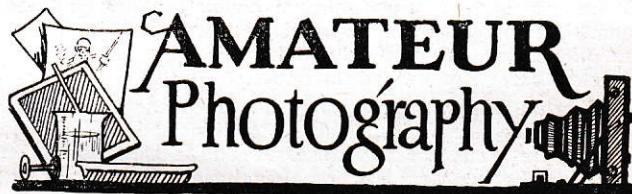
Tote Straps

In order that this bag may be used as a duffle bag and carried on the shoulder like a camp pack, it will be necessary to put on some tote-straps. You will need a strip of canvas 36 inches long and 10 inches wide for this. It should be cut

into two pieces, each 5 inches wide and a yard long. Double these to a strap 2 inches in width with $\frac{1}{2}$ inch turn under on each edge. Sew together with an over-hand stitch. It will now be necessary for you to make "bag lines" around your bag. These are made of 6 thread manila line, sewn around the bag 6 inches from the bottom and about 8 inches from the top as shown in the sketch with two loops in each as shown. The manner of attaching the tote strap to the bag is shown in the sketch.

Those who are interested in learning the finer details of sewing canvas, or a bag, will find the necessary information on pages 165-171 of the Sea Scout Manual (obtainable through Supply Department, for 75c).

—Scouting



SNOW AND FROST

By Stanley J. Milner

The one aspect of winter that appeals strongly to the amateur photographer is that when the ground is covered with snow. He reads in his photographic weekly of the beauty of mists at early morning with hardly a thrill, but let him awaken one morning to find that a good fall of snow has taken place during his hours of slumber, and he will be all agog with excitement to hunt out the camera that was pushed away in some drawer when the golden days of September were over.

This is not to be wondered at, as snow makes such a favorable difference to the appearance of the landscape; even the road one passes on the daily journey to business looks smarter in its new coat of white. If the fall should happen at the week-end the amateur can count himself lucky, as he will then have plenty of time to get pictures.

That country lane that appealed so much in the spring ought to yield one or two exposures, so load up slides with plates, or camera with film, and get going; some extra plates or spools are sure to come in handy, as subjects will be plentiful.

A smart walk soon brings one to a scene that is impressive in its stillness and beauty. The temptation is to make many exposures without proper study of composition. This will give only disappointing results. Foreground subjects and those of simple outline are usually effective. Many scenes that were uninteresting in their workaday garb will, with a mantle of white, be so changed as to be worth an exposure.

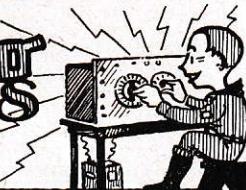
Snow, though white, must not be represented by white paper; some gradation must be shown. This means that ample exposure must be given. Even then, correct exposure is much shorter, on account of the reflected light from the snow. After a snow-storm there is usually a slight haze. This helps pictorially by subduing the distance. Many likely subjects can be found in the public parks of our big cities.

Another beautifier of the landscape is hoar-frost, but this is very transient. On the last day of 1927 we had a fall of snow in my district which lasted up to midday. During the following night the damp twigs of trees and hedges became frozen with hoar-frost; the appearance of the countryside next morning was something not easily forgotten.

To capture hoar-frost, one must be astir early, for on a slight rise in temperature all the beauty will disappear. With the modern large-aperture lenses many open subjects could be taken with camera held in the hand, but the great aid to composition the use of a stand gives well repays for carrying one. Negatives need to be developed on the soft side, when prints made through the enlarger should yield good pictures of Nature in one of her most charming moods.

—The Amateur Photographer

Scouting the AIR



By The Radio Editor

It is the editor's intention to make this column of practical interest to every reader who is interested in radio. If you are in need of advice, or technical information, put your questions in a letter and address it to the radio editor. The answer will appear in this department.

WIRED WIRELESS THE COMING THING IN RADIO

So Says

F. A. Jewell, Gen. Mgr., Radio Products Laboratory

"Within five years our present method of radio broadcasting will be obsolete; 'wired wireless' is the coming thing," so declared F. A. Jewell, general manager of the Radio Products Laboratory, New York, during a recent visit to the offices of WCFL Radio Magazine. The system of broadcasting that Mr. Jewell has in mind is perhaps more correctly described as "wired radio" but for some reason it has become popularly known as "wired wireless," the name it will in all probability, continue to bear.

"Radio programs of the future will come to us over the telephone lines or the electric light wires in our homes and offices," continued Mr. Jewell. "The change will be a gradual development and not a sudden revolution. Nevertheless it will come. In fact, it already is well under way. 'Wired wireless' is available in some cities, and big companies have been formed for the extension of the service on a comprehensive scale.

"There are several important reasons for this impending change, as well as many minor ones. Freedom from static and fading are among the chief advantages of 'wired wireless.' Clarity of reception is another. 'Wired wireless' will make distant stations as audible as those close to home—and it will keep the giant station in the immediate vicinity from dominating the receiving set. The listener will be able to use his own pleasure about what station he tunes in. Conservation of energy is another advantage of 'wired wireless' that will appeal strongly to the broadcasters. Only a small portion of the electrical energy now expended in hurling wireless radio signals into the ether is picked up by receiving sets. The greater portion of it is wasted on the great open spaces—absorbed by hills, the steel frames of skyscrapers, bridges and other objects. In certain localities there are 'dead spots' where no radio reception is possible.

"The sudden and tremendous development of wireless radio was due very largely to the fact that there was something intriguing to the thought of picking up messages from the air. Hearing voices and music in distant cities without the intervention of wires gave us a thrill—even if we did have to sit up most of the night and tolerate all sorts of squeals and crackles. The thought of radio in those days—just a few short years ago—was weird and uncanny. But public fancy is fickle. Once the veil of mystery is brushed aside, fascination dwindles, and the rare novelty of yesterday becomes the common-place utility of today: we are then more concerned about the quality of service it will render than how it functions.

"Clear reception and high-class entertainment are the chief demands we make upon our radio sets today. We want to be assured that the play-by-play account of the football game will come to us without interruption, or that the high note of the grand opera star's crescendo will not fade out or be blurred by static.

"In order to supply this demand for high-class and dependable entertainment, the engineers are turning to 'wired wireless.' Here they find a range of frequencies the exact duplicate of that now available through the ether. In fact, they find two sets of such wave-bands available to most every home and office—one set of wave-bands over the telephone wires and another through the electric light wires. The telephone wires that reach into the home can accommodate as many radio broadcast stations as are now accommodated on the ether without in the slightest measure interfering with the telephone service as now rendered. Little Dorothy can listen to the radio bed-time stories while ma gossips on the party line. Without causing the slightest flutter in the steady glow of father's reading lamp, Willie can tap in on the electric light circuit and listen to the broadcast of a college basketball game.

"There is nothing new or revolutionary about this idea. The power companies use their high-tension lines for telephone purposes as well as for the transmission of electric current. In this way they carry on inter-station communication necessary for operation of the lines and power plants.

"Radio receiving sets for use on 'wired wireless' will not need be so elaborate as those now in use. Because of the increased strength of signal received, there will be little or no need for radio frequency amplification. Therefore, the receiving sets will be of simpler design and lower cost. Yes, the radio set probably will be leased to the subscriber by the telephone or power company, just as telephone receivers are now leased. The subscriber will pay a small monthly rental, and this rental will be sufficient to take care of the cost of providing the programs, without loading the programs too heavily with advertising. Here, then, is a practicable solution of the problem that has worried radio listeners almost from the very inception of radio broadcasting—who will provide the programs of the future and how will they be financed?

"The American Telephone and Telegraph company has been conducting elaborate experiments with 'wired wireless' in their laboratories, and it is believed that they have in mind the inauguration of extensive 'wired wireless' service over their immense network of wires. Color is lent to this by the fact that A. T. & T. has disposed of its interest in the Radio Corporation of America, and the general idea prevails that A. T. & T. does not intend to renew licenses which it granted to the Radio corporation when these licenses expire in 1932. Further confirmation is seen in the very evident intention of A. T. & T. to remain in complete control of wired communication as indicated by its recent licensing of the Postal and Western Union telegraph companies to use A. T. & T. photo-telegraphy patents. At the same time the Radio corporation seems to be turning from the realm of electrical communication to that of amusement, as will be noted by an article appearing elsewhere in this magazine.

"The coming of 'wired wireless' does not necessarily mean that the present system of broadcasting will be abandoned. One station easily can employ both systems simultaneously—one 'mike' will pick up the program for transmission over the wires and another for broadcasting through the air. However, with the mystery all dispelled and radio settling down to an era of general utility, it is easy to see which of the two services will be the more popular. 'Wired wireless' will be cheaper and more satisfactory than the wireless broadcasts, and the programs will be far superior to the free entertainment available in the air."

STAMP LORE

GERMANY

By C. R. Gadsden

It is my endeavor primarily to help the beginner and the youngster who cannot afford a catalogue and is thus compelled to depend upon personal observation to discover differences in stamps apparently alike.

Germany presents quite an example and a boy looking over a lot of German stamps might throw aside quite a lot of specimens as duplicated.

At the beginning of the German Empire in 1872 the trouble began. In January, the first issue, with small shield appeared. In June came the series with the large shield in the centre. In 1875 the coinage was made uniform in Marks and Pfennings and the first series issued bore the words "Pfennige." In 1880 the spelling was changed to "Pfennig." In 1889 appeared a new series and in 1890 began the Germania series. This set can easily be distinguished by the inscription "Reichs Post" at the bottom. In 1902 the inscription was changed to "Deutsches Reich." Up to this time all the stamps were printed on laid paper.

In 1906 came the same design and colors on paper watermarked with lozenges. There is a minor variety in the Mark stamps of this series, the first issues having twenty-six perforations across and the war issue only twenty-five. The last issue of "Germania" stamps came in 1920, being all in one color up to the Mark values. This series was printed from new plates, several values however, namely, 30, 40, 50, 75 and 80 Pf. being at first printed from the old plates of the two color stamps. These can be recognized by the absence of the cross on crown at the top and by the irregularity of the placing of the centre plate. The new plates were perfectly centered.

In 1921 came the series with figures and workmen, on watermarked paper, and the following year the same designs on paper with network watermark. The 75 Pf. and 1.25 Mk. Germania stamps also came with this series.

Stamps of the Posthorn design appeared first in the 2, 3 and 4 Mark values with lozenge watermark. Then they were printed in two colors with network watermark and finally in one color only.

It is pretty easy sailing from here on until you hit the Million Mark values some of which are perforated and others rouletted.

If you want a real job pick out the coil stamps of the 30 Mark bicolored posthorns and the 6, 8 and 40 Mark of the solid color.

You can find plenty of shades in all the series and put together a very presentable collection at little expense.

If you want to look for varieties in the German stamps there are others besides these which I have mentioned and as an accumulation of German stamps is by no means difficult or expensive it will be interesting to look for them. The 20Mk. Workman type of 1923, the 3 Pf. and 10 Pf. Eagle type of 1924, and the two stamps of the Munich Exhibition and the 20 Mk. as above with the "dienst mark" surcharge are all on paper with the watermark horizontal instead of vertical. The surcharged inflation stamps are worth examining as the figures vary in size, notably the one million mark in which I have found seven different styles of the Figure I. You will find that those having the lines of erasure across the bottom sometimes have 20 or 22 lines instead of the regular 21. In some stamps the impression and color show clearly through the stamp and is plainly visible on the back. Finally almost all the stamps printed since the Inflation Period, commencing with the 1 Million Mk. have been printed both on rotary and on flat presses, the rotary stamps being about $\frac{1}{2}$ Millimeter larger than the others.

If you follow all of this dope you will be busy for some time.

—The Stamp Collector's Magazine

BOOK NOTES

The Boy Scout and His Law, by Barry Chalmers, (The Macmillan Company, New York, \$1.25), is a decidedly well written and useful addition to the literature of Scouting. It is the sort of book a Scout Leader will want to have in his collection of working tools, and is recommended by Chief Scout West, in his Foreword, to "Scouts, Scout Leaders and all others interested in discovering what lies at the heart of the Scout Movement."

The Scout Leader is continually interpreting the Scout Oath and Law. He must not only keep these guiding principles before his Scouts, but he must also tell them what they mean. Further, he must tell what they mean by translating them into the terms of everyday life and ordinary experience. The Chalmers book does this very thing through the interesting device of a series of informal talks around the Camp fire. Through reproductions of the Hintermeister Scout paintings, the Rigney cartoons and unusually quotable material in the text, it suggests what the Scout Leader may say to his Scouts in his illustration and interpretation of the Scout Oath and Law. Perhaps its most valuable feature is the fact that it is largely made up of true stories about real Scouts.

The Scoutmaster must meet the public as well as his Scouts. He must explain what Scouting really is and present it in a convincing way. The Barry Chalmers book will indeed be suggestive to the Scouter who must prepare and make speeches on public occasions as well as talk to his smaller group of boys. Here, too, parents will discover answers to some of their questions about Scouting. In these pages on what Chalmers calls "the Big Promise," they will find the key to the whole Scout scheme.

But the book is primarily directed to the Scouts themselves who will be quick enough to pick up this decidedly readable and interesting book and read it if wise Scoutmasters, with studied carelessness, leave it where their boys will find it. Such a book has long been needed and should be exceedingly popular.

The Problem Child at Home, by Mary Buell Sayles (the Commonwealth Fund, New York—\$1.50). Alert leaders of boys, as well as their parents, make use of the help of modern psychology in understanding the deeper sources of their difficulties with youth.

Clinics conducted under the Commonwealth Fund's program in mental hygiene and child guidance throw much light on "problem children." "The Problem Child at Home," while a study in parent-child relationships, is not a book of advice on how to bring up children. "It undertakes the humbler task of pointing out some of the attitudes and ideas which prevent many adults from doing a good job in this field, and attempts—going a step further back—to trace to their origins some of these ideas and attitudes."

The book pictures the emotional life of the child, describes mistaken ideas concerning child nature, sex development, discipline and heredity, and contains clinical records which are a mirror of the emotional life of youth.

A thoughtful, timely book for those interested in knowing the hidden springs of action in young people.

Scout Messages, How to Read and Write Them, by Paul B. Thomas (Alfred A. Knopf, New York, \$2.00) is written for boys "who like to exercise their minds," and has, therefore, an educational value. It gives in clear language the elementary principles of cryptography, or secret writing. The book shows not only how to read secret messages with and without the key, but also how to conceal a message in a letter, how to correspond in cipher, how to substitute and transpose letters, how to write with numbers and symbols, how to compose cipher alphabets, and how to determine and utilize letter-frequencies. For example: One of the proverbs which is enciphered with a mixed alphabet with "Scout" as a key-word is, "Birds of a feather flock together." Enciphered, this proverb reads. "CENUP KA S ATSQDTN AHKOG QKBTQDTN." There is an appeal in this book to adults as well as to wide-awake boys.

These books may be purchased at BRENTANO'S

Books for the Long Winter Evenings

Recommended by the Boy Scouts of America

LIST OF BOOKS

The Exciting Adventures of Captain John Smith, by Vernon Quinn.	\$2.50
Published by Frederic A. Stokes.	
Andy Breakers' Trail, by Constance Lindsay Skinner.	\$1.75
Published by the Macmillan Co.	
The Short Sword, by Violet Irwin.	\$1.75
Published by the Macmillan Co.	
Count Billy, by Greville Mac Donald.	\$2.50
Published by E. P. Dutton & Co.	
The Red Rose of Dunmore, by Hawthorne Daniel.	\$2.00
Published by the Macmillan Co.	
Lenape Trails, by Clifton Lisle.	\$2.00
Published by Harcourt, Brace & Co.	
Bambi, by Felix Salten.	\$2.50
Published by Senior and Schuster.	
The Trumpeter of Kralow, by Eric P. Kelly.	\$2.50
Published by the Macmillan Co.	
Mutiny Island, by C. M. Bennett.	\$2.00
Published by E. P. Dutton & Co.	
Lola the Bear, by Henry Milner Rideout.	\$1.75
Published by Dufield & Co.	
Abe Lincoln Grows Up, by Carl Sanburg.	\$2.50
Published by Harcourt, Brace & Co.	
The Father of His Country, by William E. Barton.	\$2.00
Published by Bobbs, Merrill Co.	

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